

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

**Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items in the Possession of Knife River Indian Villages
National Historic Site, National Park Service, Stanton, ND**

AGENCY: National Park Service

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site which meet the definition of "sacred object" and "unassociated funerary object" under section 2 of the Act.

Four pipe fragments were recovered from surface collection or excavation within the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. One wide-mouthed, grey/brown clay pipe bowl fragment (Accession #KNRI-00040, Catalog #KNRI-72) was collected from the ground surface by a ranger in the park during the 1980s. One half of an orange clay pipe (Accession #KNRI-00072, Catalog #KNRI-120) was collected from the ground surface by a ranger from the Big Hidatsa Site (32ME12)

during the 1980s. One small yellowish-white, undecorated kaolin pipe stem fragment (Accession #KNRI-00085, Catalog #KNRI-575) excavated at the Sakakawea Site (32ME11) by the University of North Dakota in 1976/1977. One clay pipe bowl (Accession #KNRI-00085, Catalog #KNRI-802) excavated at the Sakakawea Site (32ME11) by the University of North Dakota in 1976/1977.

Representatives of the Three Affiliated Tribes identified Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site--including Big Hidatsa Site, and Sakakawea Site--as part of the Hidatsa's traditional occupation area. Representatives of the Three Affiliated Tribes identified these four pipe fragments as objects that, as a part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of the National Park Service have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between the four pipe fragments and the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota. Officials of the National Park Service have also determined that the four pipe fragments are objects that, as a part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later, where the remains are not in the possession or control of the Federal agency or museum pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (3)(B).

Eleven objects were donated to the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site by the Robinson family in 1991. George Robinson ran a mercantile store in Cole Harbor, ND (near the Fort Berthold reservation) from the 1880's through the early 1900's. Much of Mr. Robinson's business was conducted with members of the Three Affiliated Tribes, especially Arikara people. The cultural items were received in trade for food and supplies by Mr. Robinson during this time. These eleven objects include: one small wooden pipe (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2133); one catlinite pipe with a "T" bowl squared at one end to cylindrical then tapered at the other end and one wooden

taylor stem (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2150 a and b); one catlinite pipe with a "T" style bowl squared at one end to cylindrical then tapered at the other end and one wooden stem with beading, ribbons, and painted surfaces (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2151 a and b); one red catlinite pipe with an "elbow" style bowl (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2156); one red catlinite toy pipe with a "T" style bowl and one wooden stem with plaited quillwork and feathers (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2161 a and b); one red catlinite pipe with a "T" style bowl cylindrical at one end to tapered then hexagonal at the other end and one wooden taylor stem (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2163 a and b); one hide bag with beadwork, quillwork, and fringe (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2168); one hide bag with beadwork, quillwork, and fringe (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2180); one rectangular hide bag with drawstring top and fringe (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2133); one brown wooden dance stick with light horsehair and yellow and purple ribbons (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2117); and one brown wooden dance stick with 2 horn tips and black, white, and green horsehair (Accession # KNRI-00164, Catalog # KNRI-2118).

Representatives of the Three Affiliated Tribes identified these eleven objects as coming from the traditional occupation area of the Hidatsa, Mandan, and Arikara. Representatives of the Three Affiliated Tribes identified these eleven objects as ceremonial objects which are needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions by their present day adherents.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of the National Park Service have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between the cultural items and the Three Affiliated Tribes. Officials of the National Park Service have also determined that the eleven objects are ceremonial objects which are needed by

traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions by their present day adherents pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (3)(C).

Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the cultural items should contact Chas Cartwright, Superintendent, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, P.O Box 9, Stanton, ND 58571, telephone: (701) 745-3309, before September 11, 1995. Repatriation of the cultural objects to the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota will begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: August 7, 1995

Francis P. McManamon

Departmental Consulting Archeologist

Chief, Archeological Assistance Division

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